

State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia

Staff Recommendation for Mountain Education Charter High School

Action: To amend the Mountain Education Charter High School charter contract to modify the enrollment limit from 2195 to 2247 students.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Charter Schools Commission (SCSC) approve the Mountain Education Charter High School request to amend its charter contract to increase its enrollment limit.

Rationale: When the charter to operate Mountain Education Charter High School (School) became effective on April 14, 2013, it did not contain an enrollment limit. In August and September 2019, respectively, the SCSC approved the School for sites in Chattooga and Cherokee County to serve 250 students cumulatively.

SCSC Rule 691-2-.08, which became effective May 20, 2020, requires that each charter between the SCSC and a state charter school include an enrollment limit, subject to modification through charter amendment. For any charter contract that did not include an enrollment limit as of May 20, the enrollment limit was set at 1.05 times the school's preceding October Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment count. By operation of Rule 691-2-.08, the School's enrollment limit was set at 2197, which did not account for the Chattooga and Cherokee County sites. The School now seeks to amend its charter to increase its enrollment limit to account for the previously approved sites.

Based on data reviewed from the Georgia Department of Education, staff has determined that the SCSC can honor its commitment authorizing the school to serve students at the additional sites with minimal impact to the state budget. Therefore, we recommend that the SCSC approve the School's amendment request.
